# WORLD

# NEAR EAST GALLERY

# **OMAN**

College Graduate Continues Studies in Oman



Photo taken by Aisa Martinez of traditional jewelry for sale in the Muttrah Souq (market) in Muscat, Oman.



Fulbrighter Aisa Martinez stands with a frankincense tree in the background in Salalah, the capitol of Dhofar in southern Oman. Martinez graduated from the College of William & Mary in 2006. With her Fulbright Student grant to conduct private independent study, she studied activities of the Oman Women's Association in the Omani rural interior.

# ISRAEL PALESTINIAN TERRITORIES



Dr. Sami Adwan and Dr. Dan Bar On co-teach in New Jersey.

Israeli and Palestinian Professors Teach "Shared History" in New Jersey

A 2007 Fulbright Scholar-in-Residence grant brought Dr. Sami Adwan of Bethlehem University in the West Bank and Dr. Dan Bar On of Ben-Gurion University in Beer Sheva, Israel to Monmouth University in New Jersey to coteach courses in global education. They are co-directors of the Peace Research Institute in the Middle East (PRIME), which is located in the Palestinian Territories. Drs. Adwan and Bar On work to bring together teachers from Israel and Palestine in order to create a "Shared History" curriculum, focused on Israeli and Palestinian high school students. The curriculum, designed not to create one common history but to emphasize the complexity of the history of the region, is meant to be a grassroots tool in the Middle East peace-building

process. The text for the Shared History Curriculum Project has been translated into Arabic, Hebrew, English, German, French and Italian. During their Fulbright grants in the United States, Drs. Adwan and Bar On worked with Monmouth University's Global Education Project, co-taught a course on the Middle East, presented at several workshops and conferences, including one with the United States Institute of Peace, and were honored with a Joint Resolution from the New Jersey State Senate and General Assembly.

# **ISRAEL**

# \$2.24 million Research Grant Awarded to Project Headed by Fulbright Alumna

The U.S. National Institute of Mental Health awarded a four-year, \$2.24 million grant for the implementation of a project on "Terrorism and Traumatic Responding: Exposure and Resiliency Factors," headed by Fulbright alumna Dr. Daphna Canetti-Nissim of Israel. Dr. Canetti-Nissim's colleagues in this project are American Professors Stevan Hobfoll of Kent State University, Robert Johnson of the University of Miami and Joseph Varley of the Northeastern Ohio Universities Colleges of Medicine and Pharmacy. Professor Hobfoll is also a Fulbright alumnus. Dr. Canetti-Nissim is a Lecturer in the University of Haifa's Department of Political Science and a Research Fellow in its National Security Studies Center. In 2006, she was a Fulbright Visiting Scholar to the University of Notre Dame, where she conducted research on Religion and Democracy. Stevan Hobfoll is Distinguished Professor and Director of The Applied Psychology Center in the Department of Psychology at Kent State University. In 2003, he was awarded a Fulbright Specialist Fellowship to the University of Haifa.



Daphna Canetti-Nissim

# Fulbright Alumni Awarded 2007 Michael Bruno Memorial Awards

At a ceremony held at the Israel Academy of Sciences and Humanities, Fulbright alumni Professors Uri Banin and Michael Karayanni were named the recipients of two of the three 2007 Michael Bruno Memorial Awards. Uri Banin is a Professor in the Department of Physical Chemistry of the Hebrew University and a founding director of the University's Krueger Center for Nanoscience and Nanotechnology. According to one of the Bruno Award evaluators, Professor Banin is "among the best young



nano-scientists in the world." Professor Banin was a Fulbright Visiting Scholar in support of research carried out at the University of California, Berkeley in 1994. Dr. Michael Karayanni, a Senior Lecturer and Vice Dean in the Faculty of Law of The Hebrew University, was a Fulbright Visiting Scholar to the University of Pennsylvania from 2002-2003. The Bruno Award evaluators described Dr. Karayanni as an "outstanding scholar with a first-rate analytical mind." Since the Bruno Awards program began in 1999, seven of the 25 Bruno Award recipients named have been Fulbright alumni.

#### Fulbright Alumnus Receives Outstanding Service Award

On the 20th Anniversary of the signing of the Montreal Protocol for the Protection of the Ozone Layer, celebrated in Montreal in September 2007, Fulbright alumnus Dr. Michael Graber was presented with the Montreal Protocol Outstanding Service Award for his service as the Deputy Executive Secretary of the United Nations Environmental Program's Ozone Secretariat from 1996-2004. Dr. Graber earned his Ph.D. in Atmospheric Science from The Hebrew University of Jerusalem in 1976 and in the same year was awarded a Fulbright Visiting Scholar Fellowship in support of research carried out at the Department of Environmental Protection of the State of New Jersey.







# YEMEN

# Fulbrighter Uses Yemeni Sign Language to Further Research

In 2007, Jessica Tibbets (pictured opposite page) received a U.S. Fulbright Student grant to conduct research about the deaf community in Yemen. As part of her Fulbright grant she also received a Critical Language Enhancement Award (CLEA), which funded her Arabic language study in Yemen for six months prior to carrying out her research grant. Tibbets' language skills enabled her to interview people there, ranging from teachers and school administrators to deaf students and their parents, with the goal of writing an ethnography and documentary about deaf Yemenis. She was affiliated with the American Institute for Yemeni Studies. Tibbets completed her research grant at the Holy Land Institute for the Deaf in Salt, Jordan. She was a graduate of City College of New York.

# **QATAR**

# Fulbright Scholar Speaks at Education Conference in Qatar

In March 2008, Fulbright Scholar Dr. Mickie Mathes of Brenau University in Gainesville, Georgia spoke to college deans from the region at the Annual Arab Education Conference at Qatar University. She addressed, "The Importance of Accreditation for University Teacher Education Programs in the Arab Region." Her grant was focused on teacher education in Qatar.



Dr. Mickie Mathes speaks at the Annual Arab Education Conference.



Attendees of the Annual Arab Education Conference at Qatar University.



# **MOROCCO**

# Student Fulbrighter Pursues Graduate Studies and Professional Experience

Nadia Gouy, a visually impaired student from Morocco, pursued a Masters of public administration program at Monterey Institute of International Studies (MIIS) as a Fulbright Visiting Student in 2006. She interned at the Blind and Visually Impaired Center of Monterey County (BVIC), and was invited to join the BVIC board. She was the youngest of the 13 board members. Gouy also interned at Vital Voices Global Partnership in Washington, DC. In 2007, she was among a group of 42 students selected to participate in the MIIS International Professional Service Semester, through which she worked with the United Nations Development Program's Capacity Development Group in New York.



# Fulbrighter Catalogs Experience in Morocco



Vanessa Paloma (right) with Moroccan musician.

American independent performance artist, soloist, writer and lecturer Vanessa Paloma was a 2007-2008 Fulbright Scholar to Morocco. While researching Judeo-Spanish women's songs from Northern Morocco, Ms. Paloma participated in many local events, such as conferences and performances. She worked with Moroccan musicians to make recordings and music videos of northern Moroccan Sephardic and Andalusian songs. In addition, she was invited by the Counsel to the King of Morocco, Mr. André Azoulay, as a panel speaker at the Andalousies Atlantiques Festival. She also worked on a photographic book of the Jewish Communities of Northern Morocco with interviews and photographs of the people and places. She was affiliated with Abdelmalek Essaadi University and the Music Conservatory in Tetuan, Morocco.

# Moroccan Fulbrighter Active in U.S. Community



Amina Lahbabi

Moroccan Amina Lahbabi was awarded a Fulbright Student award to pursue a Master of Arts in advertising at Michigan State University (MSU) in Lansing, Michigan, in 2006. While at MSU, she helped found the International Sponsored Students Organization, which responds to the academic, cultural and professional needs of sponsored students as they adjust to life in the United States. Lahbabi also became a member of the Office of International Students' "Speakers' Bureau" program. She volunteered in the Lansing community, with the International Volunteer Action Corps and the local refugee center. Lahbabi has made a movie for submission to the MSU Student Film Festival. Of her Fulbright experience, she said, "Through the Fulbright orientation, enrichment, and re-entry seminar, I made strong friendships. Now I can say that I have a friend everywhere in the world and that one of my future plans is to visit and host each and every one of them in Morocco."

#### Moroccan Teachers of English Participate in Exchange Program

In March 2008, eight Moroccan teachers of English completed their Fulbright Teacher Exchange Program. The teachers began the program with an orientation in Washington, DC, then spent six weeks team-teaching French alongside their U.S. exchange partners and observing English as a Second Language (ESL) classes in various localities around the United States. At the end of their program, the Moroccan participants returned to Washington, DC for a closing session and a meeting at the Embassy of Morocco.



Said El Mouhtarim, a Moroccan teacher of English, talks to students at his host school, Briar Woods High School in Ashburn, Virginia.

#### UNITED ARAB EMIRATES

# Fulbright Scholar Shares Physics Expertise in UAE, Qatar and Saudi Arabia

Professor of Earth and Physical Sciences at Jacksonville State University, Dr. Nouredine Zettili, was a 2007-2008 Fulbright Scholar to the United Arab Emirates (UAE). He was affiliated with the UAE University-Al Ain. Dr. Zettili conducted workshops and gave talks at national conferences and at high schools and universities in the UAE, Qatar and Saudi Arabia on improving the quality of physics education.



U.S. Fulbright Scholars Dr. Nouredine Zettili (second from left) and Dr. Sufian Forawi hosted a one-day training workshop for high school physics teachers at the Meriam Bint Sultan High School in October 2007. The workshop, hosted and attended by the United Arab Emirates (UAE) Ministry of Education, introduced 25 male and female physics teachers from throughout the UAE to the IMPACTSEED (Improving Physics and Chemistry Teaching in Secondary Education) program. Part of the U.S. Department of Education's No Child Left Behind Initiative, IMPACTSEED teaches physics and chemistry to secondary school students using a hands-on, inquiry-oriented model.

## Science Education Professor Conducts Workshops

2007-2008 Fulbright Scholar Dr. Sufian Forawi conducted workshops and gave talks in the United Arab Emirates at the UAE University-Al Ain on improving science teaching methodologies. Dr. Forawi is an Associate Professor of Science Education at the University of Akron in Ohio.

Dr. Sufian Forawi (pictured standing) facilitates a workshop where he co-presents "Effective Methods of Teaching Physics" to the physics supervisors in Al Ain, United Arab Emirates, in October 2007.



## BAHRAIN

#### Fulbrighter from Bahrain Teaches Arabic

Sawsan Zainal, a 2007-2008 Fulbright Foreign Language Teaching Assistant (FLTA) from Bahrain, shared her thoughts on her experience at Clemson University in South Carolina: "As a Fulbright FLTA, my main role is to teach my language to American students. Because Arabic has never been taught at Clemson, I was expecting a big challenge in introducing my language in a way that would be acceptable to American students. Once I began teaching Arabic, I found within the first few weeks that students had some anxiety about the way Arabic is written from right to left, or how the letters connect together to form words. To them, these were challenges. Eventually, my students succeeded



Fulbright FLTA from Bahrain Sawsan Zainal (middle row at center) at Clemson University.

in overcoming their anxieties. They have enjoyed writing in Arabic, and I, too, have enjoyed reading their sentences and written expressions... Less than two months are left for me at Clemson, and while I am glad I will be returning home, I will miss my life here in the U.S., my friends, and the

squirrels that greet me while walking to or from my classes in the morning or evening. Most of all, I will miss the people at Clemson. It has been such a wonderful, unforgettable experience, and it has taught me a great deal just by communicating with different people." Zainal graduated from the University of Bahrain in 2005 with a Bachelor's degree in English language and literature.

